

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 IO-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 ACDA-05 /090 W

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R 160248Z APR 75

FM AMCONSUL PORT MORESBY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 437

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT MORESBY 0333

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PP

SUBJECT: INDONESIAN CONCERNS RE PAPUA BESENA AND IRIANESE REFUGEES

REF: PORT MORESBY 049

1. INDONESIAN CONSUL GENERAL BRIGADIER ROEDJITO, WHO HAS JUST RETURNED FROM CONSULTATION IN JAKARTA, CALLED ON ME APRIL 8. PAPUA BESENA ACTIVITIES SEEMED UPPERMOST IN HIS MIND. HE SAID THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE CONCERN IN JAKARTA OVER THE UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE MADE MARCH 16 BY PAPUA BESENA.

2. HE SAID THAT IRIANESE REFUGEES IN PNG WERE SUPPORTING PAPUA BESENA, AND THIS TROUBLED BOTH GPNG AND GOI.

3. FONMIN KIKI OLD ROEDJITO THAT CHIEF MINISTER SOMARE HAD ASKED KIKI WHETHER SIMON KAUMI'S "ARMY" IN NORTHERN DISTRICT WAS OBTAINING ARMS FROM INDONESIA. KIKI SAID HE TOLD SOMARE EMPHATICALLY NO, AND ROEDJITO

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UNDERScored THE NEGATIVE TO KIKI, SAYING WHAT INDONESIA WANTED MOST WAS A STABLE PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

ROEDJITO SAID RUMORS OF INDONESIAN ARMS FOR KAUMI'S "ARMY" HAD BEEN WIDESPREAD A FEW MONTHS AGO. (COMMENT: I HAD HEARD VERY CASUAL SPECULATION ABOUT INDONESIAN SUPPORT FOR KAUMI, BUT I AM SURPRISED TO HEAR THAT THIS WAS TAKEN SERIOUSLY AT TOP LEVELS IN GPNG. END COMMENT)

4. HE BELIEVES GPNG IS NOT TAKING A HARD ENOUGH STAND AGAINST PAPUA BESENA. GPNG BELIEVES SEPARATIST PROBLEMS SUCH AS THIS WILL EASE WITH INDEPENDENCE. ROEDJITO DOUBTS THIS. HE BELIEVES GPNG IS VERY WELL INFORMED ABOUT PAPUA BESENA ACTIVITIES BUT QUESTIONS GPNG'S EVALUATION OF THE SITUATION.

5. ROEDJITO AND KIKI HAVE SPECULATED ON THE POSSIBILITY OF IRIANESE REFUGEES IN WEST SEPIK OBTAINING ARMS FROM PEKING, HE SAID.

6. IN LATE 1974, REPRESENTATIVES OF IRIANESE REFUGEES IN NEW YORK, THE NETHERLANDS, AND TOKYO ASSEMBLED IN PNG WITH THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF BOTH THE GPNG AND THE GOA TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF THEIR RETURN TO INDONESIA, ROEDJITO SAID, AND THE TERMS UNDER WHICH THEY MIGHT GO BACK. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETINGS, HOWEVER, THE IRIANESE ASKED THE GPNG TO INFORM THE GOI THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH GOI REPRESENTATIVES TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF IRIAN JAYA AND SAID NOTHING ABOUT THEIR RETURN TO INDONESIA. ROEDJITO REGARDED THIS AS SHEER EFFRONTERY.

7. ROEDJITO HOPES THAT THE NEW IMMIGRATION LEGISLATION WILL STRENGTHEN KIKI'S HAND IN DEALING WITH THE IRIANESE REFUGEES. HE DOES NOT SEEM TO ANTICIPATE ACTUAL DEPORTTION BUT RATHER VAGUELY APPEARS TO EXPECT GPNG TO USE MORAL SUASION EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY WHEN IRIANESE MIGHT BE REQUIRED TO LEAVE.

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8. ROEDJITO SAID KIKI HAD ASSURED HIM PNG WOULD NOT RECOGNIZE PEKING. (COMMENT: THIS IS THE ONLY STATEMENT TO THIS EFFECT I HAVE HEARD FROM THE GPNG OR ELSEWHERE. END COMMENT).

9. JUST BEFORE DEPARTING FOR JAKARTA ROEDJITO HAD BEEN ASSURED BY KIKI THAT PNG INDEPENDENCE WOULD BE IN LATE JUNE, AND ROEDJITO REPORTED THIS TO GOI. ROEDJITO WAS MIFFED TO RETURN AND DISCOVER THAT THE DATE HAD SLIPPED UNTIL SEPTEMBER.

10. COMMENT: I BELIEVE THAT OREDJITO IS GENUINELY CONCERNED ABOUT PAPUA BESENA AND THE IMPLICATIONS ITS ACTIVITIES HAVE FOR IRIAN JAYA. HE, LIKE OTHER FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES HERE, SEEMS TO HAVE TROUBLE IN DEVELOPING HARD INFORMATION ABOUT PAPUA BESENA, AND WANTED TO FIND OUT WHAT I KNEW.

11. OBVIOUSLY HIS EFFORTS TO PERSUADE GPNG TO SEND THE IRIANESE REFUGEES BACK TO INDONESIA ARE CONTINUING. HE REPEATED HIS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED COMMENTS ABOUT HOW SERIOUS THE PROBLEM OF THE REFUGEES WILL BE FOR GPNG AND HOW INSIGNIFICANT FOR GOI, COMMENTS THAT ARE NO MORE CONVINCING ON THE FOURTH HEARING.
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